



These notes are designed so that you can use them as a guide for teaching or alternatively you can give them to a group of students who will then complete the reading and activities independently or with a partner.

Each set of notes has:

- An activity grid
- The science content and knowledge
- The science vocabulary in the glossary
- The answers to the quiz
- Questions for each chapter to guide reading

There is more than one way to read this book. Here are four examples. No one way is better than the another. You may also like to use the graphic organizers to help guide your reading.

- You can skim through the pages of the entire book, stopping at and studying the diagrams. Then check the glossary to clarify your understanding of any unknown science-related words. This will give you the background science information before you read the story. Then go back and read the story.
- You can read the blurb on the back cover, then jump straight into reading Chapter 1. Read the story as if there were no diagrams or bolded words at all. When you have finished, go back and study the diagrams and glossary words to add to your knowledge.

- You can do a combination of both the above. Read the back cover blurb to find out the storyline. Study the initial diagrams. Then read the book, stopping to consolidate your understanding of the science concepts. Check out the bolded words in the glossary if you are unsure of their meaning.
- You can read the book chapter by chapter, stopping and discussing the story and the science as you go.

When you have finished reading, take the test. You should get six out of six. If you aren't sure of an answer, follow the quiz clues at the end of the book.

Now do one or both of the activities. When you have finished these, complete the black line master activities.

Book Title	Book Activity 1	Book Activity 2	Graphic Organiser 1	Graphic Organiser 2	Black Line Master 1	Black Line Master 2	Black Line Master 3
The Funniest Ferret	Literacy Vocabulary	Science Inquiry	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Comprehension Inferential	Multiple Intelligence Musical	Values Tolerance
Sky Farmer	Multiple Intelligence Linguistic	Science Experiment	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Science Vocabulary	Comprehension Inferential	Values Caring
Net Navigator	Comprehension Inferential	Science Experiment	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Visual Spatial	Values Understanding
Rumbling Beneath the Surface	Comprehension Inferential	Science History	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Intrapersonal	Values Care & Compassion
Slimy Slug Planet	Comprehension Inferential	Science Inquiry	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Visual Spatial	Values Respect
Revenge	Comprehension Inferential	Science Experiment	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Intrapersonal	Values Feelings
Bad moon Rising	Comprehension Literal	Science History	Comprehension Inferential	Science Inquiry	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Naturalist	Values Freedom
T.C. Ami	Comprehension Inferential	Science Numbers	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Logic	Values Caring
Against the Odds	Comprehension Inferential	Science Inquiry	Comprehension Literal	Science Vocabulary	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Bodily Kinesthetic	Values Doing Your Best
Get Me Out of Here	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Comprehension Inferential	Science Inquiry	Literacy Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Visual Spatial	Values Caring
Jed and the Master Robot	Comprehension Inferential	Science Experiment	Comprehension Literal	Science Inquiry	Science Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Interpersonal	Values Honesty
The Useless Tree	Comprehension Literal	Science Experiment	Comprehension Inferential	Science Inquiry	Science Vocabulary	Multiple Intelligence Logic	Values Fair Go Freedom & Responsibility

Sky Farmers

Science Content and Knowledge:

Earth Science: Soils

Level: Lower

Genre: Science Fiction

Reading age: 8.7 years

Science Vocabulary

bedrock	harvested
botanical	humus
clay	organic
clear-felled	silt
contaminate	soil formation
contour ploughing	specimen
diagnostic	sterilizing
dust bowl	synthetic
ecosystem	weathering
environment	weathered parent material
flora	

Quiz Answers

Question 1:

Topsoil

Question 2:

The process of breaking down rocks

Question 3:

From decaying plants and animals

Question 4:

Weathered rocks mix with organic matter to form soil

Question 5:

Plants, animals and decomposers

Question 6:

Nutrients are found in this layer

Study Guide

Chapter 1 – The Move

Chapter 1 tells us where the story is set. As you read the chapter jot down information about the setting.

Chapter 2 – The Attic

Chapter 2 provides information about the main characters in the story. Read the chapter to find out who the main characters are, what they look like and their relationship with each other.

Chapter 3 – New Visitors

From what you already know, use the cover illustration and blurb to predict what might happen. After you have read the chapter, look back at your prediction to see if you were right.

Chapter 4 – Making the Plan Work

After reading the previous chapters, Jake has a plan to help the aliens. What could be some ways Jake could help them? Jot down some ideas, then read the chapter.

Chapter 5 – Convincing Parents

How do you think the story will end? Will Jake manage to convince his parents? Read the chapter to find out.

Graphic Organizer 1– Literacy

Sky Farmers

Name _____

- Comprehension – Literal

As you read the story, jot down what you learn about Jake.

His interests	
His family	
His friends	
What he does to keep secrets from his family	



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Graphic Organizer 2 – Science

Sky Farmers

Name _____

- Science Inquiry

Fill out Column 1 before you start reading.

Fill out Column 2 as you read.

Fill out Column 3 after you have taken the test.

Fill out Column 4 when you have completed all the activities.

What I already know about soil	What I think I will learn as I read this book	What I found out from reading the book	Questions about soil that I still have unanswered



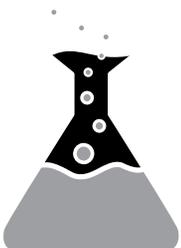
Sky Farmers

Name _____

- Vocabulary

Write a list of science words that you learnt from the story. Use the glossary on pages 68–71 to help learn the meaning of the words. Once you understand the words, write a sentence for each word.

Science Words



Sky Farmers

Name _____

- Comprehension – Inferential

Use the information you have gained from the book and complete the chart below.

What are the aliens doing near Jake's house?	
How do they travel?	
How do they communicate with Jake?	
How is their problem solved?	



Sky Farmers

Name _____

- Caring

After reading the story, think about the things that Jake did to protect the aliens from being discovered and destroyed by his parents. Think about a time when you had to protect something or someone. Answer the questions below.

Can you think of a time when you protected someone from something? Explain what that event was.

What was the reason for protecting them?

Was it a good thing or bad thing to do? Explain why.

